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The Pacific

Pacific School of Religion Berkeley, Calif.

9th Year | MAY, 1929 | No. 5

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE SECTION

A PERSONAL WORD

At the April meeting of the Board of Directors I resigned my office as Superintendent of the Conference. It was due to the overstrain carried for many months. As the Board took no action to accept it no mention was made of it in the April issue. At the request of certain good friends I am releasing it for this number in order to correct certain unwarranted inferences that have been drawn and to inform our fellowship that the alternative referred to in the resignation was not a condition but an explanation of a condition that adds unnecessary burdens to the exacting labors of your Executive. Further I wish to state that the exceptional kindness shown at the meeting of Central Association warrants the publication of their Resolution passed April twenty-third.

WILLIAM J. MINCHIN, Supt.

April 2, 1929.

To the Board of Directors, Northern California Congregational Conference, San Francisco, California.

Dear Friends:

For the past seventeen months I have carried the administrative and field work of the Conference single-handed and alone. The exactions of the two-fold work has taken heavy toll of my powers of resistance. There has been no time for reading and study, for rest and recreation. I owe it to my family to extend my years of active service rather than shorten them.

Because of this, I hereby tender my resignation as superintendent, to take effect in three months. I use this date for the reason that it is your present constitutional requirement, even though the agreements made at my coming called for six months notice.

For several weeks I have debated this question and faced the only alternative to resignation. That is the employment of a second worker. That raises problems that are at once numerous and complicated. It raises the whole question of "Divided Responsibility," which is the only issue of any importance between me and this Board. It is my honest conviction that this problem has to be worked out at an early date. With my resignation in hand it will be easier to face the problem than it would be with my convictions standing in the way.

The seven years have been full of challenging interest and with much to encourage one. The Conference is in fine physical shape. The opportunities awaiting the Conference will call for larger resources and a larger staff. My best wishes go to all those who have helped carry the load, which has lately become an overload.

Yours sincerely,
WILLIAM J. MINCHIN,
Superintendent.

LOOK

At the date your subscription expires. You will find this noted just below your address. If your subscription has already expired or will expire soon, will you please send in your renewal direct to us, or hand it to the one appointed in your church to act as agent for The Pacific. The mailing list has been checked this month, and copies are being mailed to the pastors as rapidly as possible. You don't want to miss any issues, so take care of your renewal at once. The forthcoming issues will bear news of the coming annual Conference, where important business will be transacted.

RESOLUTION

Hearing with deep regret of the resignation of Dr. W. J. Minchin as our state secretary and executive leader we, the fellowsnip of the Central Association of Congregational Churches and Ministers, desire to express our sense of loss in thus losing him from our wider fellowship.

We have come to value his friendship: to have confidence in his leadership these seven faithful years; to appreciate the many sterling qualities he has shown in easy and difficult situations. Our love, prayers and best wishes go with him in his future plans.

Resolved a copy be spread on the minutes of our association, a copy be sent to Dr. Minchin and a copy be sent to the Pacific.

E. L. SPULLER, Moderator.
L. S. FRANCIS, Scribe.

Lockeford, Calif., April 23, 1929.

M. E. M. CONFERENCE

The Conference at Asilomar conducted by the Pacific Southwest Board of the Missionary Education Movement will be held July 8 to 16. Folders containing the daily schedules and leaders for the conferences are out, as well as the poster announcing the event. Congregationalists are numerous on the list of those taking an active part, beginning with the Chairman of the Board, Rev. Holland F. Burr of the Oneonta Church, South Pasadena, and including two of the officers of the Southern California Conference; Rev. Paul B. Waterhouse who will conduct the vesper service, and Rev. Sidney H. Buckham in charge of the course on Methods for Young People and their Leaders. Archdeacon Porter will again lead the chapel in the morning, by request of these who were there last year and enjoyed his talks.

The program is divided into two major parts, the first a two-hour period on Methods Courses for the various age groups, dramatics, story telling and missionary programs for women's societies, and the other a one-hour course on the mission study books for the coming year, with a study period of half an hour dividing the two.

Copies of these programs may be obtained by inquiry at the Conference office in San Francisco, or 200 Y. M. C. A., Pasadena. Plan to send a delegate from your church and from each society in the church organization, to be your leaders this coming year.

ONE THOUSAND MEN WANTED!

One thousand Congregational men at least will plan to share the week-end sessions, arranged particularly for them, as one feature of the biennial session of the National Council of Congregational Churches to be held in Detroit, Michigan, May 28th to June 4th, 1929. Will you be one?

Speakers and leaders for these special sessions will include Mr. William Knowles Cooper of Washington, D. C.,; Mr. William F. Frazier, of Burlington, Vermont; Mr. Stanley High, of New York City; Colonel Raymond Robins of Chicago. The special features will include a men's dinner on Saturday evening, June 1.

Laymen are asked to go prepared to share your experience, to ask questions, to get help with your problems and to secure needed information.

HELP WANTED

Two of our churches are in need of equipment which they cannot supply and which the Home Missionary Society is not empowered to get for them. The only possibility of their obtaining this equipment is through the aid of some kind friend or group of friends, who would be glad to help those churches less fortunate than theirs.

One of these churches has been without regular ministerial services for over two years, but a layman has been preaching for them on Sunday, with occasional visits from a former pastor. They have recently begun to hold mid-week services again, and have painted the church. The plea now is for a stereopticon machine, which will aid them in their services, particularly on Sunday evenings. At present when they desire to have a service with slides, they have to drive many miles to borrow from a neighboring pastor. Has any one a stereopticon which can be given or loaned for an indefinite period to this church? A beginning of a revival of interest in church work to the extent of painting the church and holding mid-week services by themselves without pastoral leadership, surely needs and deserves to be encouraged.

The other church seeking such aid is not a lone church but a parish that includes a whole county, considerably over 100 miles in length and 40 in width. There are three preaching centers in this parish, with many mountain roads to cross in going the circuit, and if the means could be provided many more places could be reached than is now possible. The minister cannot afford to do all he would like to on the meager salary allotted him, and would do much more provided he could receive a car allowance of sufficient size to enable him to operate, keep in repair and renew when necessary his car. But aside from this, he feels that he could accomplish more than at present, if he could be provided with three articles: a wide-carriage typewriter, a mimeograph, and a stereopticon with interchangeable base for use with either gas or electricity. The pastor writes: "We have little in the line of entertainment here, and the lantern would enable us to combine an evening of entertainment with religious instruction in such a way as to be profitable to all who would attend."

We would submit this list of needs to those who have the means to supply them, or to some of our women's societies who are interested in such social service work. For any further particulars address the Conference office. We are sure that these needs have only to be presented to our generous-hearted people to meet with a ready response and offer of aid.

WORLD SERVICE SCHOOL MATERIAL

ALTURAS, MODOC COUNTY

In the northeast corner of California, close to the boundary lines of Oregon and Nevada is situated the city of Alturas, 186 miles from Redding. One making the trip by auto would cross three ranges of mountains, overshadowed by Mount Shasta in the north and the rugged, jagged peak of Mount Lassen in the south. These pine crowned mountains are interspersed with lovely valleys, appropriately named by the Indians "The Smiles of God." In the largest of these lies Alturas.

The outlook for material betterment in Modoc county was dubious for years; but unexpectedly the Southern Pacific Railroad decided to extend their lines into that isolated territory and now great things are imminent. A conecting link between Klamath Falls in Oregon and Alturas is being built, which means that Alturas will be on a great trunk line.

The Pickering Lumber Co. is building a lumber mill one half mile from the city, which will give employment to several thousand men. This company also is preparing to lay tracks for a logging line into the heart of the largest piece of yellow pine in the United States.

This means growth in population and a tremendous increase in real estate values.

The church property in Alturas has an ideal location and has so increased in value, that it is not beyond a possibility of its being sold and a modern plant erected. It has a wonderful opportunity to keep strides with this unprecedented revival of business and material prosperity.

The people of Modoc county are worthy and deserving of the help given by the Northern California Conference. Many of them are sons and daughters of pioneers—a few of the "old timers" still live who crossed the plains in covered wagons, crawling towards the sunset. They are conservative to an extreme; but the auto has been a great factor in breaking down the barriers between them and those "down below" as they call the dwellers in the lowlands. Many of them are "reaching forth" after the higher and better values of life. The increasing number of parents who make sacrifices to send their children to the state universities of California and Nevada attest this desire for larger opportunities for a fuller life.

The Conference has not ignored these aspirations, but has helped in a large measure to maintain this spirit of adventure and of sturdy independence which is the genius of Congregationalism. The Conference for many years has supported the work in Alturas, it would seem that now is an opportune time for careful supervision and the right kind of leadership so that the church may soon come to self-support, that mecca for all self respecting churches.

The pastor of such a church and community has many calls upon his strength and time, much of his work is done among non-members, such as conducting funerals, often traveling 100 miles in the cold and snow to

speak words of comfort so greatly needed; visiting the sick, heartening the saints, rebuking the sinful, encouraging the down hearted, and helping the old and feeble to look beyond the hills to catch a glimpse of the coming glory. This kind of work cannot be tabulated in the year book; but how worthwhile! How rewarding and inspiring!

Some one has said that a boy is worth a million yards of carpet, if that be true, the youths of Modoc county are worth worlds of carpets. Twenty-five young Christian Endeavorers of the Alturas church drove over a range of mountains in a blinding snow storm in order to give a play to raise money to send two of their leaders to the Young Peoples Conference at Asilomar.

Are such young people worth saving? Who will help to make brighter the "Smiles of God" in Modoc county? The church must answer. YOU CAN ANSWER by contributing liberally to the missionary work of the Northern California Conference.

AN OPEN DOOR

Much is being written pertaining to the varied and valuable resources of Humboldt county, "California's Redwood Wonderland." With an area of 3634 square miles, equal to the area of Delaware and Rhode Island, rich in the products of the field, the forest and the mine, there is profitable employment for thousands of men and millions of capital. The opening of the Redwood Highway, improved shipping and railway facilities, is resulting in an influx of good substantial people whose spiritual and religious needs we must endeavor to meet. "For a great door and effectual" is truly opened unto us in Humboldt, "and there are many adversaries."

As far back as 1858 this territory was entered and an effort made to meet the needs of those then here. In October of that year, Rev. W. L. Jones was sent out by the Congregational Home Mission Society and preached in a school house that stood on the site where the Eureka City Hall now stands. Another early pioneer preacher in this field was Rev. Batt, who is now enjoying an honorable retirement in Massachusetts. He came into the county on horseback from Sacramento, taking several days to do a journey that now takes us but a few hours. The outcome of the faithful service of these and other devoted servants of the denomination was the organization of a church and erection of a church building in Eureka which was made largely possible by financial aid given by the First Congregational Church of San Francisco. This, I understand, was the first organized christian work to be started in the county. Since then several other churches of our own and other combinations have been started in the various centers of population, a few continuing to this day. As far as our own body is concerned at the present time Eureka Church is the only one of the several started to have a continuous existence.

In a recent meeting of the Home Missions Council an allocation of territory was made and a very promising section was assigned to us which has been worked in times past by Congregational workers. For many years the ground has been lying fallow. In fact it has too long rested. The opportunity again presents itself to go in and reposes the land. We are now laying plans so to do. Fields Landing an old-time settlement of about 400 inhabitants has been held for many years but suffering the severe reverse of having the church burned down no organized work has been done since. Dr. Minchin, the Superintendent of the Conference, having heartened the remnant by frequent visits during recent months, the brethren have now got to the place where they say "Let us arise and build." At the present time plans are being prepared for the erection of a plant for religious education among the young and a weekly service of worship.

Loleta has a well kept church building but no services have been conducted in it for years. A union Sunday School has been held by interested friends. This we will take over and I trust develop into something more far-reaching.

Table Bluff is a settlement looking out upon the Pacific where a lighthouse is maintained and a number of Indians are resident. Here also the Presbyterians conduct a Sunday School which will be handed over to us.

Lastly we think of Falk. Falk is an old lumber settlement. For many years a Congregational church was maintained there; but the organization ceases to exist and the church building is now in a sad state of disrepair and privately owned. There is still a considerable population living there. Enough to make worth-while the Sunday School that we have for several months conducted in that beautiful valley.

Falk is a delightful place to visit, so typical of much of the Humboldt scenery with its vast forests of Redwoods and deep-cut canyons. It is built on the banks of the Elk River, what there is of it, for it is just a small mill town, reached by a winding road which follows in the main the course of the river. You are warned of the proximity of the settlement by running onto a plank road built on a deep bed of sawdust. To go beyond the mill it is necessary to leave your car and passing the log dam with its huge pile of logs awaiting conversion into lumber, you soon enter the forest. Only here and there does the sunlight find an opening to let through a pencil of light. Likewise through the door of opportunity opened to us have we entered week after week seeking to bring the light of the gospel. The group that has welcomed us each Sunday has not been a large one, but very appreciative. We shall endeavor to press this work more vigorously now that this field has been definitely assigned to us. It presents a challenge to our young men and women to express their love for the Master in definite Christian service.

As we look upon this outdoor wonderland with all of its many indications of material wealth, we must not ignore its potential spiritual riches. It would be a sad thing should this home mission field be allowed to suffer the continued neglect of the past. The number of youthful delinquents at present in the hands of the law from Humboldt county, is a sad indication of where our neglect is leading to. The insignificant place that the church has in the lives of the majority of our people does not argue well for our future. God has richly blessed us with material wealth but without the foundation of character that our churches should build to give us balance in the development of this material wealth it will profit us nothing. "Let us go up and possess the land." C. H. HUDSON.

THE BERKELEY CHINESE CHRISTIAN WORK

The Past

In Berkeley, California, where today there are about 400 Chinese residents, for a long time there was no definitely Christian work among the Chinese. Not until early in the present century, during the time the Rev. Benjamin F. Sargent was in charge of North Congregational Church on Walnut street, was a mission started for Chinese. Dr. Pond, well known American Missionary Association leader in work among Orientals in California, assisted greatly to put this new mission on its feet and was supported by a group of other loyal workers in class room instruction and religious activities. For about ten years the Berkeley Chinese Mission continued to do good work among young Chinese, particularly those who wished to learn English or to attend Christian services. Today the Chinese Congregational Church is the only Christian Church for Chinese in Berkeley.

Chinese Church Organized

Toward the close of 1914 the Chinese Congregational Church of Berkeley was formally organized, and ever since at Christmas time a celebration of a double character, is held. The decision to organize the church, through the North Congregational Church, for Chinese in Berkeley, resulted from the decade of work by the Mission, as it was felt that only through a separate organization, devoted to Chinese, would the best results be obtained. As minister and head of the present work the church has B. C. Wong, Ph.D., who has been connected with it since the days of the Mission, in 1913 and before. Dr. Wong is carrying on his difficult undertaking in a way worthy of a long line of pioneer Christian workers throughout the world. Religious services are held each Sunday evening at five o'clock, preceded by Sunday school at four; and one or two "big" special services are held annually. The church is open to any and all Chinese and has a membership of about fifty. Owing to gradually decreasing numbers of Chinese, to removal elewhere of those who in the past have been connected with the church, and to many other natural causes, the attendance has begun to shrink somewhat.

Night School and Other Work

In addition to the regular Sunday religious meetings, Dr. Wong is assisted by other teachers and students in carrying out a weekly educational-social program among young Chinese in Berkeley. Every evening the night school is in session at the church on Addison street, and classes in English are held for young Chinese who desire to learn this language in order to pursue further studies or to fit themselves for positions. Naturally, due to the exclusion of Chinese from this country, there is now a growing lack of Chinese beginners, since most Chinese native-born young people already possess sufficient knowledge of English to enter the public schools of California. In the old days many boys, expecting to be no more than household servants, received their first chance to study English at the Berkeley Chinese mission and subsequently were graduated from college or university. Twice a week, on Wednesdays and Fridays, the young people hold evening meetings after school, the first of a religious nature and the other of a social-discussion type. Dr. Wong this year presides over the Wednesday meetings, while a student leads the Friday meeting. These affairs help to bring the young Chinese together for mutual consideration of problems affecting them all. Above the meeting room of the church building is a dormitory of about ten rooms for students who pay a small rent, thus helping to support the school work; aside from occasional gifts and a financial grant from the Northern California Congregational Conference, the room rent is the only income received by the Chinese church. No tuition is charged, and at present even the dormitory is not entirely occupied. Dr. Wong nevertheless perseveres in his work and supports himself by teaching elsewhere.

Fine Record of Church Leader

Dr. Wong, who was born in this country and called Benjamin, has lived in China only eight years, during his boyhood. When he was about sixteen, upon returning from China he was baptized by the Rev. Jee Gan in the Chinese Congregational Church San Francisco. Through the Berkeley Chinese Mission as well as other missions for Chinese in California, especially the one at Santa Barbara, he was enabled to work his way through school. In 1913 when he returned to Berkeley for university work he began his connection with the Mission continuing to the present time. With out parents, the young student found in the Mission his only home. It is interesting to note that his wife, also American-born, has never lived in China and takes an active part in her husbands' activities on behalf of young and old Chinese in Berkeley. Throughout his connection with the present Chinese work Dr. Wong has likewise been associated, either as student or teacher, with the University of California. Thus his daily schedule has been full, and he has been engaged in a greater amount of work than most Americans. In 1917 he received his diploma from the university; in 1920 he won his Master's degree; and in 1922 he earned the coveted Ph. D. in mathematics. Since then he has been instructor in mathematics at the university, in a branch which, while extremely technical and advanced, has been most popular among undergraduates because they have admired the teacher as a man. Aside from these regular routine duties, Dr. and Mrs. Wong have deservedly secured a popular place for themselves among Chinese residents of Berkeley.

Present Conditions and the Future

Despite much progress in the world in recent years toward a more tolerant, more liberal attitude between peoples of differing race, ancestry and social standing, even native-born Chinese in California still find an almost insurmountable barrier as soon as they have reached a certain age. So long as they are boys and girls in the public school they seem to have little trouble; but with the coming of maturer years, and especially when it is time to seek a livelihood, a career, they find that very little actual change is to be found in conditions in this state. A young native-born Chinese, with an education equalling that of any other American, does not find it easy to fit himself into American life. For this reason many return to China whence their fathers came, or move East. The consequence however for the Chinese Christian work in Berkeley is unfortunate; for it means a gradually lessening number of faithful attendants at religious services and at night school. About 60 or 70 per cent of the Chinese population in Berkeley is Christian; some of these Chinese attend services in Oakland, others do not attend any at all; but there is yet a sufficiently large group which require the ministrations of this church. As Dr. Wong says, American-born Chinese, like other Americans, seem to have reached a state where they avoid church services. He feels, it should be added, that so long as prejudice against Orientals persists in a sort of blind, implacable way it is idle to pretend that all is well. There is a great deal more of pioneering Christian work ahead, work of a sort that requires patience, courage, and humility; Dr. Wong has a rare supply of these qualities and is glad to meet other Americans of a like mind. Incidentally, though he preaches in Cantonese, he speaks fluent English, without any noticeable accent of any kind. —J. G. Reid.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE SECTION

WEST COAST OF MEXICO

Herewith follow some excerpts m letters from Mexico:

(March 9th) "Since we have been t off from the world, the papers ere (in So. Calif.) have no doubt d you more about what is happen- g in Mexico than we know our- ives. We are glad, however, to re- ive the reports that the situation the Republic is improving. We had good scare here (Mazatlan) when inforcements began arriving by at and land and preparations made defend the city against the ad- ncing rebel forces. To date we have definite information as to where ey are—the latest was that they ere about 100 miles north—but we e trusting they will receive the word at the rebels are losing on all sides d will cease their advance. In the eantime, all we can do is to take ecessary precautions.

Mail and telegraph communications ave been resumed to the south, but e are still cut off from the north. he superintendent of the division old me yesterday that it would take nem at least two months to repair urned bridges and destroyed track o that trains could run north. We re wondering about Miss Smith and ur pastors north who will be out of unds by the end of the month, but f all goes well, we ought to have elegraphic communication at least by hat time. We heard that the Corona, s well as other Hermosilla schools, ad been closed for a period of forty lays on account of spinal meningitis, ut this information has not been confirmed.

If you want to know how many crimes can be committed in the name of liberty, come and live in Mexico a few days now."

A letter from Mazatlan, dated March 27th, reads as follows: "There is little to report except that we had two days of fighting in which as many civilians were killed and wounded by stray bullets as soldiers in combat, according to reports. It is very quiet here now. Some say because the rebels are very religious and do not want to fight during Holy Week, and others reporting that they have fled. We are inclined to believe the latter report, or at any rate, that they soon will be fleeing as more Federal troops are on their way from the South and will be coming in as soon as the one burned-out bridge is repaired.

"Our worst inconvenience is the lack of water, as the rebels cut off the supply. There are always great crowds of people around the few wells there are in town. Fortunately, we are not suffering yet as we had a tank filled with water before the trouble started and we have enough for a few days longer. We had a grand stand view of the fighting carried on by the Mexican gunboat, as it could be plainly seen from the back end of our lot."

From Guadalajara came the following reports, dated March 21st: "Guadalajara has been quite peaceful on the whole. The Sonora army was counting on reaching this state and joining forces with them. Guadalajara garrison was strengthened at the expense of the protection of the country districts with the result that the latter had been left to the mercy of the fanatics and bandits. A great many refugees have moved into the city, among them being 300 country school teachers, many of whom have been in great financial distress.

"Apparently the revolution in the north will soon be over and then the government will turn with new vigor to suppress the revolutionists in this region. In the meantime the destruction and misery increases and many poor people are being reduced to beggary. Our work has been going along without interruption."

FORTY-THIRD ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CONGREGATIONAL CONFERENCE, HELD WITH THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF PASADENA, MAY 11-15, 1929

Rev. Perry F. Schrock, Moderator

YOUNG PEOPLE'S SECTION, MAY 11-12

Saturday Afternoon, May 11th, includes: 1:30, Huntington Library Tour.

Saturday Evening—6:15, Banquet and Summer Conference Rally, Robert Brown, presiding.

7:00—Conference Address by Bruce Baxter, on "This Younger Generation"

7:45—Dramatic Presentation, Community Plyayhouse, Workshop Players, "This World and the Next," Joan Curtis.

Sunday Morning, 9:30—Open Parliament, Rev. Sidney H. Buckham, presiding, "What's Your Problem?"

11:00—Church Service, Sermon by Rev. Daniel F. Fox, D. D., subject, "The Moral Value of a Lofty Purpose."

Sunday Afternoon, 3:30— Conference Vespers at El Encanto, the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fred M. Wilcox, on the beautiful Sierra Madre mesa.

ADULT SECTION

Monday Afternoon, May 13, 2:00—Organization. Appointment of Committees. Addresses by Rev. Roy H. Campbell, San Diego, on "The Demand for Reality in Religion" and Mrs. James H. Lash, Hollywood, on "The Impelling Vision."

4:30—Vesper Service (Church Auditorium) Rev. Daniel F. Fox, presiding. Sermon by President James A. Blaisdell, Pomona College.

Monday Evening, 6:00-7:45—Banquet, Mayflower Hall, Rev. Perry F. Schrock, presiding. Addresses by Rev. Perry F. Schrock, Santa Ana, on "The Living Church in a Changing Climate," and Rev. Henry K. Booth, Long Beach, on "Pilgrims of the Spirit."

Tuesday Morning, May 14th, 9:00—Conference Reports and Plans.

10:45—Worship, conducted by Rev. E. D. Gaylord, Los Angeles.

11:15—Discussion of Mexican Work on Both Sides of the Border. Sr. Apolinar Zambrano, Mazatlan, Mexico, on "Present Aspects and Future Possibilities of Congregational Work in Mexico." (Rev. John Howland, Claremont, interpreter).

Tuesday Afternoon, 1:30—Business meetings of the District Associations.

2:30-3:30—Religious Education in Action, Rev. Sidney H. Buckham, Educational Secretary, presiding. 1. "Recreation in the Church," Gustavus Schneider, Riverside. 2. "Developing a Curriculum," Rev. John R. Lyons, Claremont. 3. "Some Special Projects," Charles A. Wolf, Pasadena. 4. "A Pastor's Approach," Rev. Holland F. Burr, Oneonta Church (So. Pasadena).

3:30—Conference Business Session.

Tuesday Evening—Addresses by Rev. Lawrence A. Wilson, San Diego, on "Religion's Rival in Russia" and Rev. O. W. S. McCall, Berkeley, on "So This Is Life."

Wednesday Morning, May 15th, 9:00—Conference Business.

9:30—Worship, conducted by Rev. E. D. Gaylord, Los Angeles.

10:00—Addresses on "Our Common Task," Rev. Wm. Forshay, San Diego, "Originality in Our Common Task," Rev. Philip K. Swartz, Saticoy. "The Wholly Impossible." Rev. Wm. I. Newman, Hemet, "The Purpose of Our Common Task." Rev. J. A. Macdonald, Wasco, "Our Common Task in Relation to the Man in the Street."

11:00—Addresses by Prof. J. Hudson Ballard, Occidental College, on "The Psychology of Influence" and Rev. O. W. S. McCall, Berkeley, on "I Believe in—Jesus Christ."

12:30—Adjournment.

STAGE SET FOR THE CLAREMONT CONFERENCE

Anticipation and excitement are running high among the young people of Southern California as the date for the opening of the Tenth Annual Claremont Conference draws near.

There is no need for urging among those who have attended the Conference before—it speaks for itself. Fond memories of swimming, bonfires, songs, baseball games, and Jimmie Wallace, along with the more serious features of the program, is sufficient advertising. As the student president of last summer says, "After all the real Claremont Conference cannot be expressed in words. Its full significance can only be realized by actual participation in this inspiring week of happy and wonderful experiences."

The Conference motto for 1929 is "A Companionable and Pleasureable Quest for Truth as Taught and Lived by Jesus." Around this theme, and around the personalities of the leaders, the classes, services of worship, discussions, and fellowship will be informally gathered. The Conference opens with the keynote address by Dr. Raymond C. Brooks on the evening of June 29th, and closes a week later with the final communion. The faculty includes Dr. Kenngott, endeared to the young people through years of service, and such stand-bys as Allan Hunter, Holland Burr, Dr. Ralph B. Larkin, Lawrence Wilson, and Paul Waterhouse. Then there are some new faces on the teaching list, including Henry Smith Leiper, imported fresh from Boston as an expert on Mission Study from the modern approach. And that's not all! Mrs. Lawrence Wilson is hostess for the girls again, and John R. Lyons of Claremont will handle the boys.

It is the desire of the Claremont Conference Committee to make this week of fellowship and study a high point in the experience of the young people. With this in mind they have attempted to develop and improve the Conference year by year. This year's changes include the elimination of one class hour in the morning with the substitution of a period for informal discussion between leaders and pupils; more authority delegated to the Student Council; the organization of a closer fellowship among Congregational Young People's Societies throughout the year; practical projects in inter-racial goodwill.

Watch for the folders and registration blanks for the Conference on May 11th, and write to S. H. Buckham, 606 Spreckels Building, 714 So. Hill St., Los Angeles, for information.

CLAREMONT CONFERENCE SPECIAL FEATURE

The Camp Committee of the Congregational Mission in Japan is planning to send two delegates to the Young People's Conference at Claremont this year. They are Miss Koide and Miss Kido. Miss Koide is a graduate of Miss Tsuda's School in Japan and speaks English well. Her companion, Miss Kido cannot speak English, but her message will be interpreted by Miss Koide. This will provide us a fine opportunity to find out what the young people of Japan are thinking about. They can carry back with them, also, something of the spirit of our Conference and give us a real touch with the Orient. Let us unite in giving them a hearty welcome to our Claremont Conference.

A TRIP TO JAPAN!

Would you like to take a trip to Japan this summer? Would you like to have the experience of being a leader in the summer camp in Tottori, Japan, situated on the beautiful shore, bordering the Japan Sea? A call has just come from Miss Stella Coe, our missionary, who has these camps in charge. Her letter, in part, is as follows: "There is no restriction as to age or sex. You know the kind of person who could get along with Japanese and has good camp spirit, so they could put up with little inconveniences. We want some one who could take back the best of Japan to America. Teacher or student, perhaps a Student Volunteer, a pastor, any one who would profit by such a trip. If we could get from such a person, or persons, music, handcrafts, dramatics, or games, it would help, but I am thinking more of what such interchange would bring in better friendship and broader horizons."

Through the columns of the Pacific I am asking anyone, either in Northern or Southern California, who would like to make this trip, render this service, and bring back a message from Japan, to communicate with Mr. P. B. Waterhouse, 606 Spreckels Building, Los Angeles, at once.

The camp for factory girls, begins the latter part of June; the college girls' camp is from July 15th to 27th; the high school girls camp from July 27th to August 10th. The boys camp continues on through August.

Do they pay your traveling expenses? Oh no! You must pay your traveling expenses yourself. They will entertain you free of charge while you are at the camp. They are paying the expenses of the two delegates to our Claremont Young People's Conference, so would expect us to pay for those who go over there. Perhaps a church would like to take this as a project and send some one to represent it at the summer camps. The one who went would get a blessing and so would the church that sent the delegate.

The round trip steamer fare would be $480. Allow $200 for travel and expenses over there. A total of $600 should be enough. This is a wonderful opportunity for service, for pleasure and for the promotion of better relations with the Orient.

Exhibit "A"—The February number referred to a certain church as "Exhibit A." A layman thinks he has discovered it, and writes: "If Christianity begins at home, and it certainly ought to, the Community Church of ———— has made a good start, and we are confident that in time we shall catch up in the matter of the apportionment, and eventually have some religion to export." That's good news!

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WOMEN'S ANNUAL MEETING

Everything conspired to make successful the annual meeting of the Congregational Women's Missionary Society of Southern California, held at Claremont, April 16, 17 and 18.

The weather, the beauty and convenience of the new Guild Hall, the nearness of Pomona and Scripps' Colleges, Pilgrim Place and the missionaries resident therein and the thoughtful planning for the comfort and convenience of the delegates by the women of the Claremont Church all created a receptive atmosphere.

Surrounded by physical comforts in Claremont, mentally and spiritually we travelled far afield.

Mrs. Thomas G. Winter, out of her broad experience and many contacts, outlined for us the meaning of Christian internationalism and what we can do to promote it. Dr. C. K. Edmunds of Pomona College and Dr. Arthur H. Smith of China showed us, as only they could, China and the new day breaking there. We saw India through the eyes of Rev. Edward Fairbanks, who has worked and travelled much in that field. Dr. A. S. Raubenheimer, a native-born Boer, helped us to see South Africa through his eyes and to understand some of its problems without prejudice. We went to Japan with Miss Cozad whose heart is in the needs of Kobe College.

Dr. Robert Freeman took us to Russia with Sherwood Eddy—helped us to lay aside our preconceived ideas of bolshevism and to sympathize with the heroic struggle that is being made to bring Russia and its people, in spite of mistakes, into a better day.

Dr. J. H. Heald made the home missionary problems of the Southwest living, vital and interesting.

The American Board made a large contribution to the success of our annual meeting by sending Miss Helen Calder to the Coast at this time. Miss Calder spoke twice at the Conference—first on the work of the American Board and its need for our constant, consistent and complete support of its program if the work is to be continued without curtailing or retrenching. We are sure many of the women went home to their churches with a deeper realization of the importance of meeting the full benevolence apportionment. Miss Calder's second message was a vivid report of the Jerusalem Conference. The picture she painted of the setting and personnel of the Council will add zest to our study of the findings of the Council scheduled for this year. Miss Calder's radiant personality as well as her message contributed much to the pleasure of the Conference.

Miss Grace McConnaughey struck the keynote and summed up the Conference with her devotions, centered on I Corinthians XII—"Love," without which we and all our works are as nothing.

This feast of information and inspiration was happily interspersed with fine music and dramatics; a pilgrimage to Pilgrim Place (after an outline of its history, aims and present status by its president, Dr. Raymond Brooks), and receptions at both Harwood Court and Scripps College dormitories. The hospitable spirit of Claremont, manifest both in its institutions and its homes, left nothing undone to make our sojourn there one long to be remembered.

MRS. R. L. BOWEN.

THE NEIGHBORHOOD CHURCH OF PASADENA

Rev. Bradford Leavitt, Minister

Candle light vesper services were held Sunday afternoons of Lent at the Hotel Vista del Arroyo in one of the most suitable settings for such services that could be imagined. The great lobby resembles an old Spanish church and seats about three hundred persons. It was lighted for this service by tall iron candelabra and the glow of the sunset in the great western windows.

The music was by the double quartet of the church. The Star Island service was used and there was a fifteen minute service by Dr. Leavitt.

On Good Friday evening there was a somewhat similar service in the chapel of the famous Mission Inn at Riverside and Dr. Leavitt was invited to take charge and deliver the address.

The trustees of the church recently vountarily increased the minister's salary $1200 and back dated it to January 1st.

SUMMER SCHOOL OF MISSIONS

The Twenty-first Annual Session of the Interdenominational Summer School of Missions is to be held in the Immanuel Presbyterian Church, Wilshire Boulevard at Berendo street, May 20th to 24th. Dr. Wilsie Martin will conduct the Bible Hour; Dr. Lena Leonard Fisher, The foreign book, "From Jerusalem to Jerusalem;" and Mrs. Hallie Linn Hill, the home book, "The City's Church."

Courses in Junior and Intermediate work, Dramatics and Story Telling are being offered. Inspirational addresses and special music will also be featured.

Registration fee—for the week $1.00, single day, 25 cents.

THE VISCOSITY OF HUMAN NATURE

"Antioch Notes" of February 1, 1929, contains the following important statement: "Taffy candy or cold tar, by moderate pressure for a long period, can be molded or bent to any shape. Under sudden pressure it resists change of shape, and if the pressure is great enough it breaks like glass. The quality of resisting sudden pressure, and of giving way to moderate, long-continued pressure is called viscosity.

Human nature has this quality to a high degree. Whoever overlooks that fact can never be a great statesman or administrator. Many a ruler has come to grief because, ignorant of the viscosity of human nature, he has tried to change suddenly the deeply rooted habits of a people. Many a reformer has despaired because of stubborn resistance to his endeavors. The master in any craft must know the materials with which he works. He is a poor workman who quarrels with his materials.

"A New Qualification for a Minister"—A layman writes as follows in commendation of a Congregational minister: "He has a good, strong voice, and speaks clear and distinct, so the deaf can hear him very well. He is faithful to his pastoral work. He likes to have the church in good, thrifty condition, and will administer the affairs of the church and have things moving every Sunday and through the week. He is young, about 35 years old, about 5 feet, 11 inches tall, and weighs about 180 pounds; dark hair, clean shaved and good looking. He has a bright, attractive wife. They are good singers and sing well together. And have four children, one boy and three girls, all bright and hearty, well behaved and handspanked, as all children should be."

NEWS ITEMS

Kern Association—The Kern Association held its twenty-fourth annual meeting at Tehachapi, Tuesday and Wednesday, April 30th, May 1st. Moderator, Rev. J. T. Munton, pastor of the Tehachapi church.

The meeting began on Tuesday at 2 p. m., with the keynote "The Effective Church." Rev. S. C. Carson, the new pastor at Oildale and Oil Center, conducted the devotions; address of welcome was given by Mayor L. J. Kanstein; Rev. A. S. Donat gave an address on "Helping Each Other," followed by discussion. At 4 p. m. a visit was made to the Monolith Cement plant through the courtesy of Supt. M. A. Garrison. In the evening Rev. H. E. Chapman, pastor of the church at Arvin, gave an address on "The Church and Her Task." The evening closed with a communion service led by Rev. W. W. Hart and Rev. J. A. Macdonald.

On Wednesday morning, addresses were given by Rev. Paul B. Waterhouse, Extension Secretary of the Conference and Rev. Sidney H. Buckham, Educational Secretary. In the afternoon, Mrs. G. W. Kitzmiller conducted the W. M. S. Hour; Rev. W. H. Hannaford of Maricopa followed with an address on "Congregational Churchmanship." The meeting adjourned at 4 o'clock.

San Diego Association met in Plymouth Church, San Diego for its semi-annual meeting, Tuesday, April 23rd, beginning at 10 a. m., with devotional service led by Rev. S. B. Kurtz of Lemon Grove. Rev. S. H. Buckham, educational secretary, followed with an address, and Rev. Chester Ferris spoke upon "Enduring Fellowship."

At 2 p. m. the Women's Missionary Hour, was conducted by Miss A. Parker. Mrs. Porterfield presented the "Crumbs from the Claremont Feast"; Mrs. E. D. Pitman gave a review of "Friends of Africa," and Mrs. Lawrence A. Wilson reported "An interview with Jean Kenyon Mackenzie," the author of a book; the Conference superintendent gave an address upon the work of the Conference; Dr. Roy Campbell upon "The Disappointments of Palestine"; Rev. Paul B. Waterhouse gave an address on the work among the Orientals; and Mr. M. K. Lau, in charge of the San Diego Chinese Mission, told of his work.

Imperial Valley—About fifty Congregationalists from San Diego started out on Tuesday morning, April 30th, for a meeting at Alpine, Rev. A. B. Peebles in charge, and then about twenty drove on to Seeley where a dinner was held on Tuesday evening. The party then broke up into four groups: one remaining at Seeley for an evening meeting; another for Calexico; another to Imperial; and a fourth to Calipatria. The Conference superintendent accompanied the party, going to Calexico. The purpose was to express the fellowship of the churches in San Diego for the Congregational churches in the Imperial Valley.

"Mexico and the Mexicans."—The Conference superintendent has been giving a stereopticon lecture, with about seventy slides, on the visit to the West Coast, showing particularly the conditions of the country; the people and our schools at Hermosilla, Mazatlan and Guadalajara.

Brea, Rev. Wm. J. Oldfield, Pastor—Dedication of the new house of worship will occur on Sunday, May 26th.

Burbank—The service was held for the laying of the cornerstone of the new church at Burbank, Rev. Leon H. Austin, pastor, Sunday, May 19th, 2:30 p. m.

First Congregational Church, San Bernardino has accepted the resignation of Rev. H. B. Mowbray as pastor. The committee has many names under consideration.

First Congregational Church, Los Angeles has extended a unanimous and enthusiastic call to Dr. Carl S Patton of the Chicago Theological Seminary, to become pastor.

Rev. D. F. Fox, D. D., has resigned the pastorate of the First Congregational Church, Pasadena, after nearly twenty years of service. What shall we do without Dr. Fox?

Buena Park, Rev. Burton Y. Neal, pastor, is rejoicing continuously in its fine new house of worship and already it is taxed to the limit, with its Sunday school of three hundred, still growing.

Lawndale, Rev. O. K. Walker, pastor, wonders how soon the oil wells will be sprouting in the adjoining lots.

Rev. T. L. Dyer, pastor of the Bethany Rawson Memorial Church, Los Angeles, is making a good recovery after an operation for appendicitis.

The Finnish Congregational Church, Mr. John F. Heino, pastor, now worshipping in the First Congregational Church, is making plans for its much needed new building.

Mr. J. S. Edwards of Redlands, sent a box of delicious juicy oranges to the Congregational office. The oranges were divided among the following: Dr. George F. Kenngott, Supt.; Mr Fred M. Wilcox, Treas.; Rev. Paul B. Waterhouse, Extension Secretary; Rev. Sidney H. Buckham, Educational Secretary; Miss Dorothy Doyle, Office Secretary, and Miss Dora Booty, Superintendent's secretary, who are very grateful to Mr. Edwards. He evidently reads the "Pacific." "Like Priest, like people"; Rev. H. C. Ide reads the "Pacific."

Church Ceremony—The marriage of Miss Bertha Mansfield Freeman, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Luther Freeman of 390 E. Piedmont street, Pomona, to Mr. Roland Dennis Hussey, was an important event of April 5th in the Pomona Congregational Church.

PACIFIC SCHOOL of RELIGION
PREPARES for the RELIGIOUS VOCATION
BERKELEY CALIFORNIA